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To

Charles W. Smith: -

Activity Award

National Amateur

Press Association

July 4, 1924.

with kindest wishes

W. J. Buchanan

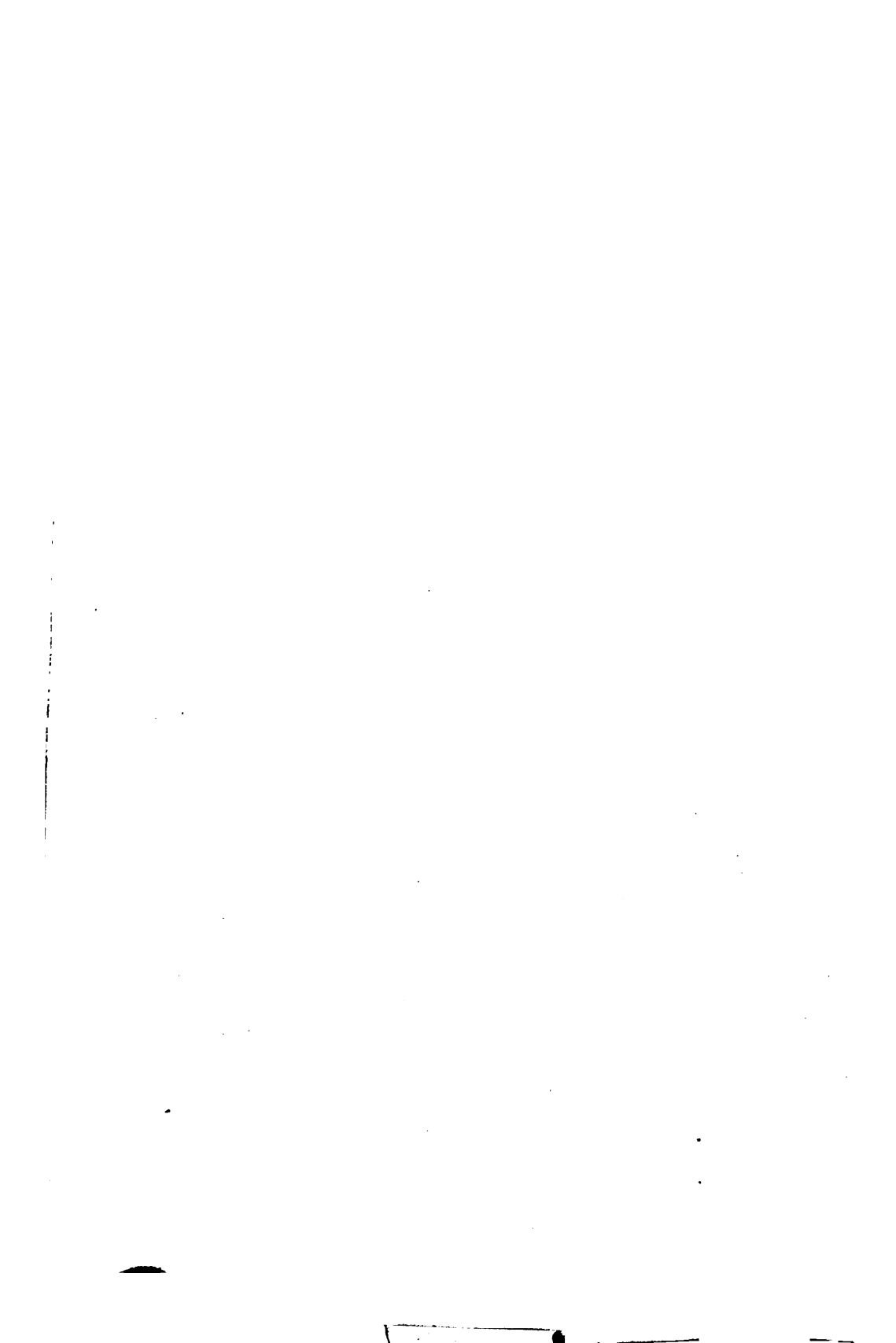
Milwaukee, Wis.



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NARE

Ahlha



EX-PRESIDENTS
OF THE
**NATIONAL AMATEUR
PRESS ASSOCIATION**

SKETCHES

BY
WM. C. AHLHAUSER



W. PAUL COOK, PUBLISHER
ATHOL, MASS.
1919

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RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

TO THE

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

NATIONAL AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION

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PREFACE

In presenting this volume of biographical sketches of Ex-Presidents of the National Amateur Press Association, the author fully realizes that the sketches are not as complete as may be desired but he wishes to state that the facts gathered were the best obtainable and many were procured with a great deal of difficulty. Innumerable letters were written to the living Ex-Presidents and to the relatives of our deceased officials, and in many cases no replies nor data were furnished. The sketches written were compiled from actual facts, procured from various sources.

The credit of origin of this work must be given to Fredk. F. Heath, who suggested the department at the time when the author was Official Editor of the National Amateur, in 1907. To Walter F. Zahn, the author is also indebted for his co-operation, at all times. John T. Nixon, just prior to his death, suggested the page size to be the same as the bound volume of Nixon's History of the National Amateur Press Association, making this a companion volume. The final publication of this work is solely and primarily due to the generous spirit of W. Paul Cook, now President of our beloved organization, an executive of untiring efforts bound to make the coming year the most successful in the history of the National Amateur Press Association.

In dedicating this volume to the officers and members of the National Amateur Press Association, the author wishes to voice his gratitude for the untold benefits and pleasures derived and the many warm friendships gained through that most wonderful institution, Amateur Journalism.

WM. C. AHLHAUSER.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 6, 1919.

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**JOHN WINSLOW SNYDER****1st President**

John Winslow Snyder, the first president of the National Amateur Press Association, entered amateurdom when a resident of Richmond, Va., back in 1872. The 'Dom as we know it today was then in its infancy, but talent was quickly recognized and "Winslow" with his large output of articles contributed to the various papers soon grew to be one of the lights of the movement. It is said of him that he was the most popular amateur of his day, and when the national meeting was held at Philadelphia, Centennial year, and the National Amateur Press Association launched, his selection as president seemed to come as a matter of course. Two years before he had been elected president of the Southern Amateur Press Association, then a flourishing body in a section that was very active. He served the National Amateur Press Association as first vice-president during its second year, and it was a notable fact that he was presiding officer at the first three of the National's conventions—at Phil-

adelphia, in 1876, as president, at Long Branch, 1877, as vice-president, in the absence of the elected president, Alexander W. Dingwall, and at Chicago in 1878, until the newly elected president, Wm. T. Hall, assumed the gavel. "Winslow" once said that his amateur career began in one sense when he was a boy of twelve years attending the boarding school at Highland Falls, N. Y., and was shown by a Brooklyn boy a copy of an amateur paper published by a friend of his.

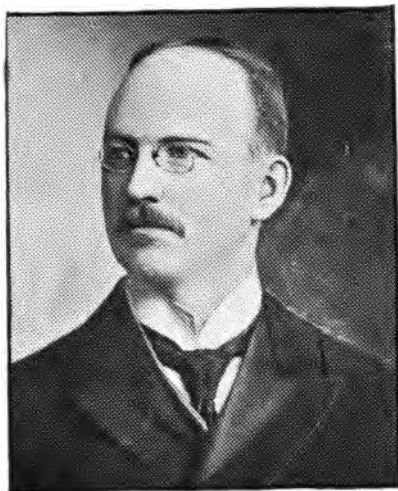
He took up the study of law in 1877 and in 1880 removed to Kansas City, where he opened a law office. "All of my experiences," he said, "have been of untold service to me in my profession and in my writing of articles for the law journals as well in the preparation of lectures which I delivered in the Kansas City School of Law. I shall never forget the "brain storm" I experienced when I saw the first amateur paper. From that attack I have never recovered, and I expect to die in the

faith. Professional duties cannot rob me of the pleasure of studying over the many amateur papers that good friends in the cause constantly send me. But naturally and properly I am most interested in two particular supporters of

our cause: the organ of the Association and the *Fossil*, that serves so well to keep the 'old boys' all in touch and knowledge of one another."

John Winslow Snyder died at Kansas City, April 4, 1910.





ALEXANDER W. DINGWALL

2nd President

Alexander W. Dingwall, the second president of the National Amateur Press Association, was born in Toronto, Canada, Nov. 15, 1858, but grew to manhood in Milwaukee, Wis., whither his parents had removed. His active career as an amateur journalist began in April, 1875, with the publication of his *Amateur Aspirant*, of which D. E. Roberts, also of Milwaukee, was co-published. The paper at once made Dingwall a leader in the fraternity and placed his name alongside those of Charles K. Farley, John Winslow Snyder, J. Edson Briggs, James Austin Fynes, Carlton B. Case, Richard Gerner, Joseph P. Clossey and others. Dingwall was the central figure in the Association's first political campaign. The organization had been effected at Philadelphia in 1876 and the officers chosen as a mere incident to the meeting. Then followed the memorable contest for the presidency culminating in Dingwall's election at Long Branch, N. J., in July, 1877. It was a Gerner and anti-Gerner campaign. Charles C. Heuman,

the anti-Gerner candidate, had suddenly withdrawn. The Eastern amateurs immediately wheeled Dingwall into line, and, in one of the most exciting conventions the association ever held, Dingwall came out winner with a vote of 38, to Gerner's 26, and 11 for Snyder. His term as president was uneventful, the Association not even having an official organ of its own in those days. In May, 1877, he issued the first number of the *Conservative*, which ran the usual course, and finally, in January, 1876, joined with Stanton S. Mills of St. Louis, in issuing the *Amateur Reformer*. Mr. Dingwall, during his amateur career was a bank clerk in Milwaukee and at the same time dramatic critic for the Milwaukee *Sentinel*. He later resided in New York and was manager of the extensive theatrical interests of the late Jacob Litt.

Alexander W. Dingwall died July 28, 1918. Funeral services were held at New York and interment at Milwaukee, Wis.



WILLIAM T. HALL

3rd President

William T. Hall, third president of the National Amateur Press Association and one of its organizers was well known during the years from 1876 to 1879 as editor and publisher of **The Western Amateur**. Its publication office was Chicago, but for a time it was issued from Ann Harbor, Mich., where Hall was attending the Michigan University. He was present at the first convention of the association at Philadelphia in 1876 and was elected secretary; at the second convention, at Long Branch, N. J., the following year, he was chosen treasurer. The third yearly convention was held at Chicago and Hall became a leading candidate for the presidency with fair chances considering a large membership in his home

city. The campaign was spirited and at times bitter, the other candidates being Joseph P. Clossey (the "Peerless Clossey"), editor of **Our Free Lance** of New York, and Will Hancock of **The Club** of Chicago. Hall won an easier victory than was expected, receiving on the second ballot 39, to Clossey's 22 and Hancock's 10. Clossey's defeat embittered the eastern amateurs for a while, but time usually heals such things. During Hall's administration the first number of the **National Amateur** appeared.

After leaving Amateur Journalism Hall became prominent in Chicago professional journalism. His death some years ago cut short a very promising career.



JOHN EDSON BRIGGS

4th President

John Edson Briggs, fourth president of the National Amateur Press Association, of which he was one of the founders, was elected to that office at the convention held in Washington, his home city, in July, 1879. Mr. Briggs entered the 'Dom Jan. 1, 1875, with a paper called *The Imp*. It was a four-page paper, two regulation columns to the page, but the page size was later slightly enlarged and it was in time noted for its regularity as well as for its vivacity and its wit. Briggs soon became a factor in the association and held various offices, and when in '79 it became manifest that the race for the presidency was to be between him and James Austin Fynes of Boston, a hard struggle was looked for. Fynes was a brilliant fellow, full of dash, and active from the beginning in the affairs of the organization, and clearly entitled by

his work and prominence to the chief preferment, but it was a question whether the activity he would put into his campaign would overcome the high standing which Briggs had with the amateur editors all over the country. Fynes the "idol of by gone days," had been a president maker; could he do as much for himself? He fought desperately, and contrived almost at the last to convert enough resident Washingtonians to land the much coveted prize, but Briggs triumphed in a close contest. Briggs' administration was an active and a creditable one.

Mr. Briggs, who is still employed by the government in Washington, continues to hold dear the memories of his amateur days and has taken quite a part in recent years in the affairs of the "old boys' " organization, the Fossils.



WILL L. WRIGHT

5th President

The 1880 convention of the National Amateur Press Association held at Cincinnati, was responsible for giving the association three more names for its presidential roster. The first of these was that of Will L. Wright, of the **Egyptian Star**, Cairo, Ill. His term was brief—very brief. In fact it scarcely lasted more than a minute! He had been a candidate for the office in opposition to Thomas G. Harrison, of the **Welcome Visitor**, Indianapolis, and on the balloting received twenty votes to Harrison's eleven. 'Midst the applause of his exultant supporters, he thanked the convention and then resigned the office, explaining afterward that personal circumstances had so shaped themselves that his early retirement from the 'Dom was inevitable. Harrison was then elected by acclamation. While some may still hold that Wright's name should not be on the presidential

roster, the fact is that the association has itself taken the affirmative action. And no one conversant with "amateur history" will undertake to deny that his name adds lustre to the list.

Wright started his **Egyptian Star** in 1877 and it was from the start one of the liveliest papers of them all. It was printed on rose tinted and later on cream colored paper, each page consisting of two columns of type, regular newspaper size. There is a tradition that Oliver Optic (William T. Adams) promised to dedicate one of his stories to a leading amateur journalist and that the choice fell on Wright. Wright held various offices in the various press associations, and was vice-president of the National Amateur Press Association in which capacity he opened the Cincinnati convention. He died, several years ago, while residing in California.



THOMAS G. HARRISON

6th President

Thomas G. Harrison, the sixth president of the National Amateur Press Association became an amateur editor in 1876, his first venture being the **Indian Boy**, which he issued jointly with Will R. Perrin. He followed it with a paper entirely his own, which he named the **Welcome Visitor**, and the **Visitor** as it was eventually called proved at various times to be a recognized factor in the history of the association. Its span of life measured over ten years. Besides his own paper his activity was also evidenced by numerous articles contributed to the amateur press over the pen name of "Nameless." His greatest service to the association, however, was the publication of his still celebrated book: "The Career and Reminiscences of an Amateur Journalist," which saw the light in 1883, and consisted of 330 pages. It is generally known as "Harrison's Career," and copies are now hard to get and are eagerly sought after.

Besides being chosen president of the National at Cincinnati, in 1880, he has held many offices in the various amateur associations, some of which are: President of the Western Amateur Press Association (1878); first vice-president of the Editors' Lyceum (1878); official editor of National Amateur Press Association (1883); executive judge, (1884). In spite of his inactivity after his election as president of our association, Mr. Harrison endeared himself to the members on more than one occasion when the circumstances called for the leadership of a strong personality. He rendered distinguished service in the effort to right the great wrong to Henry E. Legler, due to the ballot fraud at the New York convention of 1883, and the result was in no small degree due to his efforts. Mr. Harrison was born at Indianapolis, in November, 1860. He was Great Chief of Records, of Great Council of Indiana, Improved Order of Red Men. Thomas G. Harrison died July 29, 1911.



THOMAS H. PARSONS

7th President

The Cincinnati (1880) convention of the National Amateur Press Association may be set down as a president maker. It elected Will L. Wright, who at once resigned. It then chose Thomas G. Harrison in his stead, who later became inactive, leaving Thomas H. Parsons, the First Vice-President, nominally at the head of the administration. Not much activity was shown during the term 1880-81, but as Parsons presided at the Buffalo convention of 1881, his name in after years was given a place on the roster of National Amateur Press Association Presidents. Mr. Parsons was born at St. Catharines, Ont., in 1860, of American parents. Later the family removed to Buffalo, N. Y. His first paper, *The Sentinel*, was issued in December, 1877, the name being later changed to the *Amateur Blade*. Later still it was called *Our Blade*. In all nearly sixty numbers appeared. He

also wrote prolifically under the name of "Old Sledge." During 1878 he was official editor of the New York State Amateur Press Association, being re-elected in 1880. In 1879, he was recording secretary of the Eastern Amateur Press Association and later official editor. At the Cincinnati convention of the National Amateur Press Association he was chosen First Vice-President, and in 1883, at New York, Treasurer. He was also an amateur printer, printing other papers besides his own. Mr. Parsons' writings were mostly in a humorous vein, for a praiseworthy specimen of which the reader is referred to his article in the *National Amateur* for June, 1882, entitled "The Light Side of the Last Convention." He died in Buffalo in July, 1892, at the same time that the National convention was being held there.



FRANK NEWTON REEVE

8th President

It was in 1881 that the National Amateur Press Association reached the lowest ebb in its history. And just at that moment it had the good luck or the good sense to call to the presidential chair the strongest man that ever served it. This man was Frank Newton Reeve, of Newark, N. J., publisher (and printer) of the justly famed *Independent Times*. By his accession new life came to the association and it was saved from a most humiliating death. When the time for the convention, in July of that year (in Buffalo), arrived, but fifteen amateurs responded to the roll call. Disloyal ones talked of a new association. On Reeve's door at the convention someone had pinned a placard reading, "The National Amateur Press Association is dead!" Reeve's gritty answer was, "The National Amateur Press Association must and shall survive!" Able official associates were given him and at once the old ship made response to his master helmsmanship. Interest rekin-

dled. New papers appeared. New respect was aroused. And at Detroit the following year there was a convention attendance of nearly forty. Reeve's indomitable will and unflagging toil had compelled activity. The International Amateur Authors' Association had practically "died aborning." The revival of the National Amateur Press Association was signalized by the appearance just before the Detroit convention of the famous *St. Nicholas* article (in the issue for July, 1882). A special photograph of the convention was taken for the magazine and this was given in a second article that appeared in the issue for July, 1883.

Reeve was born in 1859. He begun his career as a puzzler in 1874, in Munro's *Girls and Boys of America* over the name of "Ned Battles." The same periodical published his portrait in 1876, which put the amateurs "on his trail." In 1877 he attended the Long Branch convention of the National Amateur

Press Association and a year later started his typographically perfect **Independent Times**. In 1880 he commanded the forces in the successful campaign of Will Wright for the presidency, showing skill and organizing ability. He was himself unanimously given the first vice-presidency, and had previously held the office of corresponding secretary. He also held the offices of president of the New Jersey Amateur Press

Association, first vice-president of the Metropolitan, and recording secretary of the Eastern. He was urged for a second term as president of the National, but respected the unwritten law rule and declined. Reeve died in 1888, while traveling salesman for a New York jewelry house. He was a man of rare personal magnetism and throughout his career had many loyal friends and few real enemies.





FINLAY A. GRANT

9th President

The National Amateur Press Association went to Canada for its ninth president, and fared extremely well in the selection of Finlay Arnon Grant, who had won distinction as the official editor of the Reeve administration. Grant, while not brilliant, was more than a plodder; he was a driver—tireless, persistent, enthusiastic. His administration reflected these qualities and was in every way creditable; indeed, he may be almost called the original strenuous president.

Grant was born at Sunny Brae, Picton Co., Nova Scotia, in August, 1862. He became interested in Amateur Journalism in 1876, while attending the New Glasgow high school, but his first work was as a puzzler. In 1878, he joined with George E. Frye, of Halifax, in issuing *The Young Bluenose*, following it up, upon its suspension, with *The Punching Judy*, under his own editorship. This, in turn, made way for *The Boys' Folio*, the paper with which his

name is most closely identified. This latter paper appeared regularly down to 1881, at about which time he was also associated on *The Young Nova Scotian*.

Grant was probably the first amateur to make recruiting a passion. Due to his efforts, as well as others, Nova Scotia developed great activity, and this resulted finally in his successful attempt to get for the Canadian amateurs regular admission into the National Amateur Press Association (this action was taken at the Cincinnati Convention of 1880). He organized the Nova Scotia Amateur Press Association and was twice its president. At the Buffalo Convention of 1881, he was made official editor of the National Amateur Press Association, and at Detroit, the following year, was the popular and successful candidate for the presidency. It is not only a notable fact that the famous *St. Nicholas* article of that year contained his portrait, but also that he had no little part also in inspiring the article. After

his turn as president he remained active for several years and up to the time of his death in 1897, was more or less in touch with the 'Dom. At the time of the Boston Convention in 1885, he was unit-

ed in marriage to Amateurdom's poetess, Bertha York, of Michigan. At the time of his death they were residents of Fargo, North Dakota.





WILLARD OTIS WYLIE

10th President

Willard Otis Wylie, whose name comes tenth on the National Amateur Press Association presidential roster, was born in Newburyport, Mass., in 1862. His paper, **Golden Moments**, published from Beverly, Mass., held a leading place among the amateur journals from 1879 to 1883. It was attractive typographically as well as notable for its editorial excellence. From 1883 to 1884 he was associated with Howard K. Sanderson on **Our Compliments**. Mr. Wylie's devotion to amateur journalism soon brought him into political prominence and he was elected president of the Massachusetts Amateur Press Association in 1882 and president of the New England Amateur Press Association the year following. His campaign for the National Amateur Press Association presidency in 1883, with Charles K. A. Watkins as manager, was vigorously waged and apparently ended in victory. Mr. Wylie reckoned among his supporters such amateurs as

J. R. Gleason, W. T. Scofield, James J. O'Connell, Truman J. Spencer, Charles R. Burger, Charles Heywood, H. K. Sanderson, Joseph Dana Miller, and Albert E. Barker, and had a large newspaper support. In the convention at New York the proxy committee reported 13 votes for Wylie and 16 for Henry E. Legler of Milwaukee. The convention vote was 31 for Wylie and 25 for Legler, and the former was thereupon declared elected. Scarcely had Mr. Wylie settled down to the work of the office, however, than it became known that a number of Legler ballots had been secretly destroyed in the proxy committee at New York and that this changed the election. There was consternation throughout the 'Dom, and although no blame was attached to Mr. Wylie, he found his administration so unsettled that, for the sake of harmony, he tendered his resignation. Here a sort of Gilbert and Sullivan situation was encountered. The constitution only per-

mitted a president to resign for inactivity. And he had issued his paper regularly and attended to his duties. As his resignation could not be legally accepted he remained nominally the president until the Milwaukee convention the following July. That convention declared Mr. Legler to have been elected and place him upon the list of presidents, and a subsequent convention restored Mr. Wylie's name. As has already been indicated, Mr. Wylie was in no way a party to the fraud at New York, as was admitted by his most partisan opponents. Moreover, he has ex-

pressed himself to the effect that the Milwaukee convention justly righted a great wrong.

Mr. Wylie never lost interest in the association. He has attended the conventions of 1883, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1894, 1900, 1907. At the convention of 1891 he was made an executive judge. He has for many years been prominent in the national temperance cause, and was recently the candidate of the Prohibitionists for Governor of Massachusetts. He is at present managing editor of the *Melkeel's Stamp News*, and resides in Boston.





HENRY E. LEGLER

11th President

Already a notable in our little world, the election of Henry E. Legler to the Presidency of the resuscitated Western Amateur Press Association, at the Detroit National Amateur Press Association convention in 1882, brought his name forward as a leading presidential possibility in the national body. There was no denying his insistent friends and admirers. A strong man was needed to keep the National on the high road of success, and it was seen that Legler possessed all the qualifications needed—courage, dignity, intellectuality, loyalty and enthusiastic diligence. He was employed in professional newspaper work at Winona, Minn., and while the West would consider him its candidate, all sections would doubtless furnish supporters for him, and so it turned out. The campaign began early in the new year. Charles G. Steele, official editor at the time, announced his withdrawal from the race and the contest narrowed down to Legler on the

one side and Willard O. Wylie, of Beverly, Mass., on the other—James B. H. Storms, of New Jersey, also running. The Legler campaign was managed by Harry E. Batsford, of New York, and the Wylie campaign first by John Fischer of Buffalo, but later by Charles K. A. Watkyns, of New York, Fischer having been dismissed for attempted irregularities in connection with the the membership rolls. At the New York convention (July, 1883), after a closely contested struggle Wylie was the apparent winner, but shortly after the adjournment of that meeting it developed that two "over ardent" Wylieites, Fischer and Frank Martin, had destroyed enough Legler ballots in the proxy committee to change the result. A year of bitter discussion ensued and at the Milwaukee convention of 1884 the great wrong was righted, so far as it lay in the convention's power to right it, and Legler's name was placed upon the presidential roster.

Henry E. Legler was born in Palermo, Italy, of Italian and Swiss parentage, in 1861. He removed with his parents to this country and made his bow to amateurdom in 1878 by issuing **The Tidal Wave**, from Memphis, Tenn. In 1879, a year later, being then a resident of LaCrosse, Wis., he changed the name of his paper to the **Censor**. Becoming a newspaper man at Winona, Minnesota, he some time later launched an amateur paper called **The Idler**, which immediately put him in the front rank as an editor. Subsequent to the Detroit convention he removed to Milwaukee to take up reportorial work on the **Daily Sentinel**, and from that city sent forth his well-known **La Caprice** and **Blades o' Grass**, the latter entirely devoted to amateur literature. In 1884 he was for a time associated with Frederick Heath on the latter's **Stars**

and **Stripes**. Besides being a National President he has served the Association as an executive judge and held at various times offices in minor associations.

Mr. Legler's first public office was that of proof reader for the Wisconsin Senate in 1881. He remained in newspaper life up to 1889, being at that time city editor of the **Milwaukee Sentinel**. Friends put him forward for the secretaryship of the Milwaukee public schools, and he was elected by the directors. He served with signal ability, and in 1901 resigned to become secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, in which wider field he did splendid service. Mr. Legler died at Chicago, Ill., in the fall of 1917, closing a most successful career as Librarian of the City of Chicago.





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spirit to the convention, but Stowell won out by a vote of 22 to 10. The day before Stowell had been elected president of the Western, for which he had been a candidate for some months.

The new president of the National left the convention with the best of intentions. But a malady of the lungs began to develop and he hastened to California. Meanwhile his office was neglected, and the executive judges

finally found it necessary to declare it vacant and to advance Vice-President Heath to the position. Stowell grew gradually worse as time went on, for the medical profession did not understand tuberculosis and the curative value of fresh air as they do today, and he finally died at Pomona, Calif., Feb. 6, 1888, his melancholy end coming as a great shock to his many friends, who had supposed he was mending.





FREDERIC HEATH

13th President

Frederick Heath was the thirteenth president of the National Amateur Press Association, succeeding President Stowell. Nixon's history says that Heath was one of the hardest workers that ever filled the executive chair and this activity that guided the association during the "Halcyon days returned" was the result of the deep belief which Heath held in the cause of amateur journalism. In his first message, he made the timely recommendation that all documents of value be printed in the **National Amateur** so as to insure their preservation. He also initiated the idea of officially preserving a file of the official organ, and himself collected such a file, fairly complete, and turned it

over to the Boston convention of 1885. He also helped to get the postal pound rates restored for amateurs during his term. The Boston convention that closed his administration had an attendance of over seventy and was one of the most successful ever held. Shortly afterward Heath, run down by overwork, went to Florida for his health, where he remained a year.

Mr. Heath was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1864, and he took to journalism "as a duck takes to water." As early as his tenth year, he indulged in making-up little music manuscript magazines for home and neighborhood circulation. At the age of fourteen, he became the possessor of a small Model

printing press and printed a little magazine called **Our Enterprise**, copies of which are still preserved. In 1882, he became aware of amateur journalism through the **St. Nicholas** article and straightaway issued his **Stars and Stripes**, printing it upon an old Novelty press. As a result of correspondence with Frank N. Reeve and others, he attended the National convention at Detroit—the first of twelve National conventions which he attended during his career. A second **Stripes** was issued after the convention and then he began again, issuing the paper in the form in which it became familiar to the 'Dom, Century size, illustrated heading, etc., a size which was continued when it was taken over by John T. Nixon, years afterward. Heath induced Henry E. Legler to remove to Milwaukee in the fall of 1882 and between them they built up the remarkable Milwaukee activity of 1883-5, greatly aided by an exhibit of amateur journalism which he made at the Milwaukee Industrial Exposition that year and the next. Milwaukee became the banner city, with a large local membership and over a dozen papers. Besides the presidency of the National, he has held among others, the following offices: First Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Official Editor, and Executive Judge in the National Amateur Press

Association; and Official Editor and Recording Secretary in the Western Amateur Press Association. He captured the Historian Laureateship in 1885. He was the proposer (1884) of the Century size uniform page plan for amateur papers by which many were led to issue in a size that permitted them to be bound together by years for preservation. Mr. Heath was toastmaster at the banquet of the Milwaukee, Wis., (1908) convention, and also indexed the twenty-two volumes of the National Amateur. He played a very positive part in the 'Dom and had many enemies as well as many friends.

Since leaving the 'Dom, he has been in professional journalism and is now editor of the **Social-Democratic Herald**, a paper of national circulation. In 1900 he was a candidate for Mayor of Milwaukee and later served as an alderman in the Common Council. He was a member of the Milwaukee Charter convention and later was elected in the city at large a member of the Milwaukee School Board. In 1901 he was national chairman of the Social-Democratic party, now the Socialist Party, and secretary of its national nominating convention at Chicago. Mr. Heath, at present, is Supervisor of his district and prominent in official life.





DENNIE AUSTIN SULLIVAN

14th President

Dennie A. Sullivan began his career in 1875, the year before the National was born, by issuing from his home town, Lowell, Mass., **The Boys of Lowell**. The name is suggestive of the origin of his interest in the cause, as the sensational professional boys' papers, such as **The Boys of New York**, ran columns of the personal doings of the amateur journalists of that day, and imitative amateurs launched amateur **Boys of Gothams, Boys of Philadelphia's**, etc., all over the country. However, when the fight in the ranks against the sensational sheets for boys was begun a few years later we find that Sullivan was one of the leaders in the crusade. The movement gained so much force that the Long Branch convention of 1877 declared against this class of professional sheets and the semi-hoodlum influence they were alleged to be bringing into the organization.

Sullivan soon changed his **Boys of Lowell** to **The Advocate**, later to **The**

Young America, and then to **The Index**, this later paper assuming prominence in the little world of letters and being reputed for its fine typographical appearance and the dignity and high tone of its editorials.

He joined the National Amateur Press Association in 1878 and that same year proposed what he called the Index system, as a modification of the National Amateur Press Association constitution, which was substantially embodied in that document at the Chicago convention of that year. Because of ill health he suspended **The Index** in 1880 and remained inactive until 1884, when **The Index** burst forth with doubled page size and imposing appearance. The next year the name was changed to **The Youth**.

While chiefly devoting his time to editorial work and essay writing, Mr. Sullivan gave some thought to amateur politics. In 1880, just before his retirement, he was elected president of the

New England Amateur Journalists' Association and served creditably.

In 1885 he became a candidate for president of the National Amateur Press Association and was the successful contestant in what turned out to be one of the hottest and most bitter campaigns in the association's entire history, both before or since. Personalities had full rein, and the 'Dom was stirred from center to circumference. He found himself opposed by some of the amateurs of New England, which, together with the fact that his opponent, Mr. Heath, had at least two very active opponents in his home city, Milwaukee, contributed no little feeling to the contest. On behalf of Mr. Sullivan his campaign managers issued a large campaign sheet called **The Gracchi**, and the other side presented a like sheet called the **Frederic Faries Heath**. The sharp-

ness of the struggle was shown also by the result, for the count of noses and proxies at Boston (July, 1885), showed Mr. Sullivan the victor by three votes.

Mr. Sullivan's term of office was uneventful and entirely creditable. The **National Amateur** during his term of office was printed in his own professional printing office at Lowell. On retiring from the 'Dom a second time, Mr. Sullivan devoted himself to the printing trade, and was latterly, for a time employed in the printing office of ex-President Heins, in New York City.

A letter received under date of Oct. 21, 1909, from Rev. Denis A. Sullivan, Church of the Immaculate Conception, Columbus Park, Lowell, Mass., says: "I believe the Dennie Sullivan you refer to is dead, died some months ago. He was some time a journalist in Lowell."





J. H. IVES MUNRO

15th President

J. H. Ives Munro, fifteenth president of the National Amateur Press Association was born in New Glasgow, N. S., in 1862, and entered amateurdom from the same city in 1882 with **Our Standard**, as part of the New Glasgow recruiting. In 1883, when Finlay A. Grant returned to New Glasgow from a short residence in the United States, Grant's **Boys' Folio** was resurrected and Munro became one of the editorial staff. In 1886 he again edited a paper all his own, which he called **Canada** and which took front rank. Mr. Munro pursued his amateur career with spirit and devotion and was popular and omnipresent. In 1885 he was founder and first president of the Canadian Amateur Press Association, and had held highest offices in the New Glasgow club, which had been organized at his home, as the first amateur organization in Canada. He attended the Boston convention of the National Amateur Press Association in 1885 where he served as corresponding secretary, and the same year was made treasurer of the Eastern. All in all, he says he has traveled 8,000 miles in attending conventions of the National.

Following the Boston convention of 1885 matters official had been moving rather slowly, the **National Amateur**

when it appeared came out in a poor typographical form, and even the political pot bubbled in a listless way. Various candidates appeared and disappeared and finally late in the following year Mr. Munro got in the running and rallied a large following. Although the convention was but two months away and there was not much time for organizing an opposition, some amateurs unfavorably inclined to Munro, centered on Heath as the most likely to achieve a formidable opposition, and the "Heathens," still bitter over their candidate's narrow defeat at Boston, put on their war paint for an eleventh-hour battle. The convention was held at San Francisco, and neither candidate was present. Munro led on the proxies, but Heath had the larger convention following. By the absence of the treasurer's books, which permitted the counting of some proxies cast by non-members, the election escaped being cast into the convention and Munro triumphantly won out by a combined proxy and convention vote of 50 to 44. There was great enthusiasm and excitement at the convention.

President Munro's administration was a placid one save for one incident. A number of literary amateurs attempted

to found a rival association called the Literary Lyceum of America and to decree the death of the old association. But this was successfully resisted by the administration and the amateurs at large, and the leaders of the new move later on acknowledged their error and were reinstated. A National Amateur Press Association Year Book, which Munro had proposed, made its appearance during his term, and a second volume was issued a year later.

President Munro remained active after stepping down from office, although not as the publisher of a paper, and attended several National Amateur Press

Association conventions, and in 1897 made a trip to Great Britain where he attended the conventions of the British Amateur Press Association and the Scottish Amateur Press Association. While abroad he was united in marriage to Agnes S. Mungo, of Glasgow, who was the official editor of the **Scottish Amateur**. On arriving in New York they met a warm welcome and at a banquet in Boston were presented with a fine marble clock. They resided at Winnepeg, Manitoba, where Mr. Munro was one of the substantial citizens, and where he passed away January 16, 1918.





SAMUEL S. STINSON

16th President

Samuel S. Stinson was elected in 1887 at Philadelphia to succeed J. H. Ives Munro. Out of a very disappointing convention, in which politics that would disgrace a Bowery district was dominant, the association got a good president. On a very flimsy technicality the proxy vote was thrown out uncounted. Although it was known that Will S. Moore of San Francisco had a good lead over Michael F. Boechat of Buffalo, the presidency was thrown into the convention and after several declinations was literally forced upon Stinson. The convention, in very shame, adjourned at the first opportunity, the annual banquet and the sight seeing were given up, and President Stinson began thus the difficult administration of a disgusted amateurdom. But he acquitted himself well. He especially encouraged the literary side of amateur journalism and the effort was salutary. A bi-monthly *National Amateur* was issued,

ably edited by Frank D. Woollen. The stand-bys of the movement increased their activity and there was a notable output of papers. This activity produced a large convention at Chicago the following July, at which meeting amateurdom tried to undo the wrong committed at Philadelphia by placing the name of Will S. Moore on the presidential roster.

Mr. Stinson was born in Newton, Pa., but a few years later his family removed to Philadelphia. He became interested in amateur journalism at the early age of 13, as a writer of stories and poems. He won a prize award from Frank Leslie's *Boys' and Girls' Weekly*, and later had several of his poems and humorous rhymes accepted by *Life*, *Puck* and *Judge*, as well as his contributions to the amateur press. Later Mr. Stinson took to professional journalism and has had a notable career. He began on the *Philadelphia Record*, put in two years

on the **New York Herald** and then returned to Philadelphia. His witticisms and verses are not confined to the **Record** by any means and are frequently met with in the magazines and national weekly publications. He built himself a home at Greenwood Lake, New York, where he plans to spend his

declining years—many years from now. The **Inland Printer** some time ago, devoted two pages to Stinson's poetry and humor in a series of articles on notable American poets and humorists, giving specimens of his work and according him great praise.





WILL S. MOORE

17th President

Athwart the Boston convention of 1885 there flashed a youth who actually exceeded the preconceived notions of him—it is often the other way. "Frisco in '86" was his slogan. The amateurs had heard it through correspondence and the amateur press, but when Will S. Moore, effervescent and irrepressible, suddenly appeared in their midst they considered the matter settled and figured San Francisco a winner beyond all doubt for next National convention seat. And so it befell. No single-handed convention boomer ever won out so surely and the knowing ones saw future presidential timber in this likeable youth from the Pacific. The San Francisco convention of the following year was too local in color to be a success, and Moore might have carried the day there, but his friends bided their time. They put him forward the next year and he became at once the favorite candidate. It seemed as if the Philadelphia

convention had only to count the votes and declare him elected. But this was not what took place. The same type of New York amateur was in the convention that brought about the infamous defeat of Legler only five years before. Questionable methods eliminated Moore from the race and the choice was thrown open to blind chance. It had been found that some of the duplicate proxies had been opened by mistake, but the integrity of the custodian, Jerome Bull, was not for an instant questioned. Taking advantage of this the sinister elements in the convention put forward Wolfe, a New York amateur, to play their cards for them. He contended that the proxies were illegal. Another New York amateur was in the chair and so ruled. Then Wolfe moved to adjourn to midnight. This was quickly passed and thus many of the local Moore men, whose homes were at a distance, were gotten rid of.

When the midnight session was held, however, Michael F. Boechat, the opposing candidate against Moore, scorned to take advantage of the parliamentary trickery that was to give him the advantage and his denunciation of the prime movers produced one of the most dramatic scenes ever witnessed at a national convention.

Many others declined also and the presidency was finally forced on Sam S. Stinson, as related in the preceding sketch.

Outraged amateurdom was not slow to make its feelings known relative to the Philadelphia infamy and to those who had abetted it. So definite was the demand that the stain be in some way removed that at the Chicago convention the following

July, ex-President Henry E. Legler moved that Moore's name be added to the presidential roster following that of Stinson (who had made an excellent president) and the motion prevailed.

Will Moore began his amateur career as a thumb-nailer, but before long was issuing one of the leading papers of his time, the *Pacific Courant*. It was of four and six pages, three columns to the page, and was a model typographically as well as regarding regularity of issue. Moore was elected first vice-president of the National in 1885 and in 1886 was chairman of the executive judges. He was largely the life of the San Francisco movement to his time and held various local offices.

He died in February, 1896.



**ALBERT E. BARKER****18th President**

Albert E. Barker might have been the twelfth president of the National, but fate decided otherwise. It held him in reserve six full years and then placed upon his more matured brow the glowing crown which so many had "justed" for. He was born in Joliet, Ill., March 27, 1864, and removed to Judsonia, Ark., in 1873. In 1881 he became interested in amateur journalism through an amateur law society. In December of that year he and a friend named Charles D. James issued the first number of **The Amateur News**. With its sixth issue Mr. James retired and the name was changed to **The Journal**. Mr. Barker was later editor-in-chief of **The Exchange Journal**, and it became the journal with which he was identified in the minds of the amateurs from that time on. Meantime he took an interest in the association and was elected third vice-president of the National, '83. The account of his candidacy for the presidency before the National convention at

Milwaukee in 1884 will be found in a preceding chapter in connection with the biography of Pres. Stowell, of this series, and it need not be repeated here. In 1887 he was appointed laureate recorder and in 1889 a member of the then judiciary committee.

The contest for the presidency in 1888 lay between Mr. Barker (who had moved to Chicago, Ill.,) and Frank Denmark Woollen, who had served most creditably as official editor under the Stinson administration. Barker was elected by a combined convention and proxy vote of 55 to 43. The convention, which was held at the Tremont House, Chicago, was notable for the wildness of the partisanship over the presidential conflict, and is abruptly adjourned after the election amidst considerable confusion. The Barker administration that followed was rather eventless, although the executive had matters well in hand, and it was notable for a very fine volume of the **National**

Amateur during the official year, due to the happy choice of Truman J. Spencer as official editor. Mr. Barker still re- sides in Chicago and has never entirely lost his interest in the association, although immersed in business cares.





LOUIS KEMPNER

19th President

The nineteenth president of the National Amateur Press Association was born August 4, 1862. He entered the ranks of amateur journalism by way of puzzledom; having contributed to several puzzle departments during the year 1880 under the nom de plume "Webster."

Early in the year 1881, he edited *The Nonpareil*, an eight-page monthly, National Amateur size. His career in our little world commenced with this publication and he was active constantly from that time until his term as president of the National Amateur Press Association in July, 1890, when he retired from the ranks for all time. His best publication was *The Union Lance*.

In the history of amateur journalism during that decade, Kempner took a

prominent part and it is safe to say, a most creditable one.

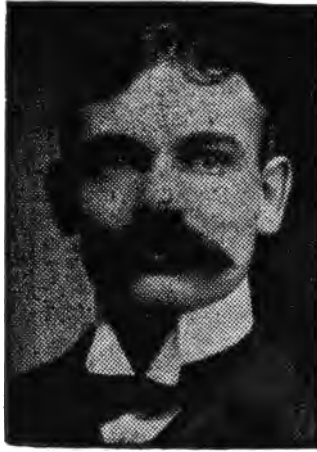
Kempner is best known as a forceful editorial writer and as an organizer. He did much toward keeping in the active ranks the best writers of prose and verse during his time. He spent liberally of his limited means to publish good amateur literature. He attended the National Amateur Press Association convention held in Buffalo, 1881; supported Frank Newton Reeve and Finlay Arnon Grant for president and official editor, respectively. He was elected their vice-president at that convention. He attended the Detroit convention, 1882, New York, 1883, Milwaukee, 1884, and Boston, 1885.

Upon the death of President Stowell, who was succeeded by Vice-President

Heath, the executive judges, Thomas G. Harrison, chairman, appointed Kempner first vice-president. At Boston in 1885 President Heath was candidate for reelection and Kempner as first vice-president presided at all sessions until Sullivan was installed. It has been frequently said of Kempner's work as presiding officer: "To his fair and impartial rulings, to his thorough knowledge of parliamentary practice, to his determined stand that the proxy votes be counted, can be attributed the great place, Boston, 1885, holds in the history of amateur journalism." But Kempner made many sincere friends in Boston in 1885, and his election to the presidency in Buffalo, 1889, can be attributed largely to his work at the convention that elected Dennie Sullivan president in 1885.

Kempner was an active worker in the M. A. J. C. in Pythagoras hall, that met weekly in Canal street, near the Bowery, of which organization he was secretary and president. In 1885, he was president of the Eastern Amateur Press Association. In 1889, Kempner's *Union Lance* won the editorial laureateship. He was chairman of a committee, in 1888, that entirely revised the constitution of the National Amateur Press Association. It was adopted at the convention that elected him president. Many of the strong features of the present constitution remain from the one Kempner drafted; two decades have passed since, but the main features of that work have survived. Today Kempner is showing some of the spirit of his time in the active ranks, by his work for the Fossils, of which organization he served as treasurer for several years.





WILLIAM S. DUNLOP

20th President

William S. Dunlop, twentieth president of the National Amateur Press Association, was born in Milwaukee, Oct. 14, 1867. While attending high school, in 1884, Mr Dunlop's interest to edit and publish a paper began to manifest itself, and having procured a small printing press and some type, he began his career as an amateur journalist with a small paper called **The Milwaukee Herald**. In 1885, he took over Heath's **Stars and Stripes**, Richard W. Houghton of Milwaukee, joining him in the editorial work, and Heath contributing a special column each week. He continued publishing the **Stripes** until 1887. At the time of his elevation to the National presidency, he was editing and publishing **The Messenger**, which had been founded by Will J. Roe, of Oshosh, Wis. **The Messenger**, in Dunlop's hands, rated high and also enjoyed a name for its regularity of issue. In 1886 he started **Dunlop's Amateur Library**, one issue of which was "The Annals of Amateur Journalism in 1886." The size of Mr. Dunlop's later issues grew to such proportions that he could not turn out the papers alone, and hav-

ing set the type matter, the presswork was left to be done in a printing office.

On leaving school, Mr. Dunlop began an apprenticeship as a printer, but later became a reporter on **The Evening Wisconsin**, which position he held for ten years, when he was promoted to the city editorship. Mr. Dunlop served as secretary of the Milwaukee Press Club. At the time of his death he was city hall reporter on **The Milwaukee Journal**.

In 1890, Dunlop was elected president of the National Amateur Press Association at its Indianapolis, Ind., convention; but, after serving his term of office as the chief executive of the National Amateur Press Association, he retired from active amateur work.

During the summer of 1895, Mr. Dunlop spent a few months in Europe. Nineteen hundred saw him a married man, having married Miss Edna Johnson, besides whom he left surviving three children, two girls and a boy. Mr. Dunlop died Jan. 28, 1910, in Milwaukee, the pallbearers at the funeral all being members of the Milwaukee Press Club.

Though not actively interested, in later years, Mr. Dunlop firmly believed in the manifold good of amateur journalism, and enjoyed receiving papers from publishers who knew him during

his active career. Having been a dramatic critic, Mr. Dunlop had had occasion to meet several old-time amateurs now connected with the theatrical business.





DR. EDWIN B. SWIFT

21st President

Dr. Edwin B. Swift, twenty-first president of the National Amateur Press Association, was born June 28, 1859. His first amateur paper was published in 1876, the year the National Amateur Press Association was organized. In 1890, he was elected treasurer of the National at the Indianapolis convention, and the following year, 1891, as candidate of the Literary party, he was elected president by the largest vote ever cast up to that time. He was very active and was soon accounted one of the leaders. His *Hyperion*, in 1890-2, was a fine publication, and his term as president was a vigorous one. He had a good deal of trouble with the inactivity of his official board, but surmounted all difficulties. Dr Swift has the distinction of having published more issues of papers than any other amateur. He published a weekly paper, regularly for four years, and attended 11 conventions of the National during his career.

Dr. Swift graduated from the Ohio College of Dental Surgery in 1886, and in 1891 he was appointed professor of operative dentistry in the Miami Dental College. After four years of service there, he resigned and went to New York. In 1904, he opened his own office and has already acquired a competence, having built up his practice which now requires the services of two assistants. His hobby is amateur journalism, and his fad, the collecting of diamonds. Dr. Swift's collection of gems comprise 16 stones now, varying in size from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $4\frac{3}{4}$ carats. He is a member of the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Junior Order United American Mechanics, The Fossils, director in the American Building and Loan Association, and is creator of the National Endowment Fund. He only recently returned from a trip across the ocean, where he visited the English amateurs.



FRANK E. SCHERMERHORN

22nd President

Frank Earle Schermerhorn, twenty-second president of the National Amateur Press Association was born in Philadelphia, Dec. 1, 1870. He graduated from the Central High school in 1890. In 1892, he graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Finance and Economics and, in 1894, from the law department. He was admitted to the bar at Philadelphia in 1894 after reading law with United States Commissioner Henry R. Edmunds. He was a member of the Second Troop Philadelphia City cavalry in 1896. In 1903 he was elected captain and was re-elected in 1903 but has since retired. He commanded the troop during 67 days of strike duty in the coal

regions in 1902. In the years following he again assumed the practice of law and is now secretary of the Jas. Smith & Co., Inc., a woolen machinery company, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Schermerhorn was elected president of the National Amateur Press Association, at Philadelphia, 1891. He was an active member of the old Philadelphia Amateur Journalists' Club until his retirement after the Buffalo convention of 1892. He was its official editor and edited several issues of the club paper, *The Clover Leaf*. His most prominent paper was *The Ideal*, which was published for years with great regularity.



TRUMAN JOSEPH SPENCER

23rd President

Truman Joseph Spencer, twenty-third President of the National Amateur Press Association, was born at Hartford, Conn., May 29, 1864. He entered Amateur Journalism in January, 1882, publishing the *American Sphinx* regularly each month until September, 1885, closing with an elaborate farewell issue. In 1888, he was joint editor of the *Juvenis Vade Mecum* and two years later published the *Investigator* which he continued until September, 1895, totalling 640 pages in all with many illustrations in color. Special issues were the New Year's number of 50 pages; Shakespeare issue, 60 pages; Christmas number, 24 pages; Convention issue, 30 pages; Mid-Winter number, 120 pages, (largest issue of an amateur journal ever issued); and, Farewell issue, 108 pages; all of Century size. In 1898, he published the famous *Honorificabilitudinitatibus*.

Mr. Spencer gained distinction as a publisher of amateur books, having published the following:—

"Literary Cyclopedia of Amateur Journalism." Largest amateur book published). T. J. Spencer.

"Verses From a Vagrant Muse," Joseph Dana Miller.

"Echoes of Halcyon Days," Max A. Lesser.

"Twilight Stories," Minna B. Noyes.

"Mr. Eagle, U. S. A.," John L. Wright.

"The Starless Crown," Capitola L. Harrison.

"Here He Comes in Likeness of a Jew." T. J. Spencer and Capitola H. Spencer.

He attended the National Amateur Press Association conventions of 1883, 1884, 1885, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1898, 1900, 1902, and was toastmaster at five National Banquets. Mr.

Spencer usually wrote essays upon Shakespearian subjects and won many essay laureateships in 1892, 1895, 1898, 1905 and the editorial laureateship in 1894. He was elected Corresponding Secretary N. A. P. A., 1883; President New England A. P. A., 1884; Treasurer, N. A. P. A., 1884; Executive Judge, N. A. P. A., 1885; Official Editor, N. A. P. A., 1888; Executive Judge, 1891; President, N. A. P. A., 1892; Executive Judge and Laureate Recorder, N. A. P. A., 1894; Executive Judge, N. A. P. A., 1898; Alumni Secretary, N. A. P. A., 1904. Mr. Spencer was chosen President at Boston in 1892 with practically

no opposition. He was married in 1896 to Miss Capitola Le Noir Harrison of Kentucky, who that year was Poet Laureate as Mr. Spencer was Essay Laureate. They have two boys, Llewellyn Truman and Willard Wylie Spencer.

For years Mr. Spencer was in the printing and publishing business and is now secretary of the Smith Linsley Co. (printers) of Hartford, but since 1905 he has given all his time to lecturing upon Shakespeare. In 1895, he was elected a life member of the Shakespeare Society of New York, the leading society of the kind in the world.





HARRY C. HOCHSTADTER

24th President

Harry C. Hochstadter, twenty-fourth President of the National Amateur Press Association, was born at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on July 5th, 1867. Through Norbert Heinsheimer, then President of the Western Amateur Press Association, he obtained his first inkling of amateur journalism; and at Birmingham, Alabama, in the fall of 1885, he published his first amateur paper, *Dixie*, setting up the type and printing it on a small Model printing press. Later, he removed to Philadelphia, and together with Elliston J. Perot, Sam Stinson, Porter Cope, Schermerhorn and several others, organized the Philadelphia Amateur Journalists' club which has been more or less active since that time. He joined the National Amateur Press Association in 1887 and was active in the Moore campaign. He held various offices in the

Pennsylvania and New Jersey Amateur Press Associations, the Keystone State Amateur Press Association, and the Eastern Amateur Press Association. He attended the subsequent conventions of the National Amateur Press Association at Buffalo, Chicago and Indianapolis. In 1891, he was Secretary of Credentials and Chairman of the Reception Committee. He was elected President at the Buffalo convention, 1892, and he accepted the office with the declared intention of using every effort to bring together the two factions of the National, with the final result that before the end of the Presidential year the two factions had united, the office of Official Editor having been tendered him by the executive committee and the other officers of the Schermerhorn faction being appointed upon the united National Board. With the close of 1893, he re-

tired from activity. His work, principally, was his first publication, **Dixie**, which in later years was changed to **William Penn Monthly**. He was associate editor of **The Ideal** and as official editor of the Philadelphia Amateur Journalists' Club, published **Clover Leaf**.

During his amateur activities, he was engaged in business, which he deserted in 1898 and entered the law school of the University of Pennsylvania. Since 1901 he has been engaged in the active practice of law in the City of Philadelphia.





JOHN L. TOMLINSON

25th President

All through life, John L. Tomlinson lived in two worlds, the world of everyday affairs and business, in which he achieved business success, and the world of amateur journalism. Few amateur careers will show as devoted and long continued activity as his.

He became an amateur when living in Chicago, in 1884. In spite of his youthfulness, he took an active part, and in a few years his paper, the *Commentator*, had a national standing for its merit and its regularity. There was a good deal of activity in Chicago in those days with a local amateur press club and many papers. His first National office was the Treasurership, he being elected to that office in 1888, at Chicago, and

re-elected the next year at Buffalo. In 1891, he was appointed Treasurer again and re-elected the following year. He was elected a Vice-resident in 1890 and in 1891; and, in 1895, was an Executive Judge.

When the two wings of the National Amateur Press Association came together at Chicago in 1893, he was chosen President by acclamation in a harmony convention. By this time, the malady, a brain affliction, that ultimately caused his death, forced him to resign some months later. He passed away August 4, 1909, at 3.50 P. M., in his home in California. Mr. Tomlinson attended many National conventions and was the life of those gatherings.



ALSON BRUBAKER

26th President

Alson Brubaker, the twenty-sixth president of the National Amateur Press Association, was born in Milway, Pa., in the year 1872, and it is notable that his entry into amateur journalism was in response to an advertisement of the association which was inserted in **Golden Days** in 1890, **Golden Days** being a juvenile weekly of national circulation in those days. The bundle of specimen papers he received kindled his interest, and this was increased when Mr. and Mrs. Finlay Grant removed to Fargo, N. D., in which city Brubaker had previously located. His **Ink Drops**, which he launched in 1891 took a leading place almost at once, and was favorably known by its literary contents. In 1895 his holiday issue easily carried off the medal for the best holiday issue of that year.

In 1892 the Boston convention of the National Amateur Press Association elected him corresponding secretary and he was re-elected the following year but

resigned. In the fall of 1893 President Tcmmlinson's health became so impaired that it was necessary for him to resign, and when the executive judges canvassed the field for a man to fill his place they picked Brubaker—an unusual honor to one who had been so short a time in the 'dom. He filled out the unexpired term with marked ability and thus well vindicated the judgment of those who had appointed him. In 1894 he was chosen an executive judge. In the Chicago convention of the National Amateur Press Association, in 1893, he was made assistant secretary of credentials. In 1903 he was elected treasurer of the formerly flourishing Western Amateur Press Association.

The early day amateurs were many of them also active as puzzlers, in fact, the 'dom got most of its recruits from that direction in the early Seventies. They seemed to come to us naturally—perhaps their expert familiarity with the dictionary inclined them to editorial

handiness. This was also so in Mr. Brubaker's case, since he enjoyed quite a fame in the ranks of the puzzle solvers. He won the first prize of \$125 in the Judge contest in 1899, being one of twelve out of 45,613 who solved all the puzzles correctly. Recently, he won a prize of \$30.00 in the Booklovers' contest.

Personally Mr. Brubaker is bright, frank and excellent company. His career in amateur journalism has been marked by hard work enlightened by a keen brain and high endeavor.

In private life Mr. Brubaker is the resident manager of the Fargo Theater. He is an enthusiastic collector of autographs, and has latterly become the owner of an extensive egg farm.





CHARLES R. BURGER

27th President

Charles R. Burger, the twenty-seventh president of the National Amateur Press Association, became active in 1882 at the age of 18. His first paper was the **Bergen Post**, a three-column folio printed on tint paper, but he was best known for his **Progress**, which succeeded his **Bergen Post** and **Invincible**. Ex-Pres. Wylie, in writing of him, says: "It was in 1883 that I met my friend, Charles R. Burger. I count the event that led to it a memorable one, a day when I was given an introduction to a wider sphere of activity than I had ever known before. New York City, Brooklyn and Jersey City were all alive with amateur journalism and the gathering of many from a distance added to the life of the conclave. Probably no man in amateur journalism has ever occupied the same relation to it as Mr. Burger. Where many have disliked him, scores have learned to love him."

Aside from his activity as a practical politician, Mr. Burger contributed a great deal to the interest of the 'dom for many years. In 1885 he organized the Empire State Amateur Press Asso-

ciation and in 1887 was very active in the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Amateur Press Association. In that year, also, he reorganized the Eastern and again in 1890, and in 1899, 1903 and 1908 had a part in the re-organization of the Western. In 1894 he re-organized the Metropolitan Amateur Press Association.

In the National Amateur Press Association he was elected recording secretary in 1887 and president in 1894. In 1892, 1895 and 1902 he served as an executive judge, in 1886 as director and in 1899 as treasurer. His record for National Amateur Press Conventions is said to be unrivaled—New York '83, Boston '85, Philadelphia '87, Chicago '88, Buffalo '89, Indianapolis '90, Philadelphia '91, Boston '92, Chicago '93, Boston '94, Chicago '95, Chicago '99, New York '02, Chicago '03, Philadelphia '06, Milwaukee '08.

While formerly a resident of Jersey City, the seat of his youthful activities, Mr. Burger in 1895 removed to Pasadena, California, for reasons that concerned his health. Writing of this Mr.

Wylie says: "For years our friend has been fighting a malady that would stagger the bravest of hearts. I have seen him when the end seemed near, but hope and courage never failed him. I shall never forget that six-mile walk through the Gap of Dunloe and the subsequent

experience at the hotel in Dublin where for seven days life hung in the balance. Mr. Burger is a Prohibitionist in politics with Democratic tendencies, in religion a Methodist, but hardly orthodox as we New Englanders know Methodism."



**WILL HANCOCK****28th President**

The leading candidates for the presidency in 1895 were David L. Hollub of California and Edwin Hadley Smith of New York. The convention, however, elected Will Hancock of North Dakota, a dark horse. Mr. Hancock had previously been honored by the corresponding secretaryship and the official editorship by appointment in 1893. Besides the two candidates mentioned above there was a third, for after the delegates had assembled for the convention, at Chicago, President Burger announced himself a candidate for re-election. While he may have had his plans well laid, it appears that he was still lacking a few votes to win. There then followed a proceeding that produced the greatest turmoil, for President Burger called a temporarily appointed Vice-

President to the chair, and a number of applicants for membership from California were black-balled. Later, when it became apparent that President Burger would be unable to win the election, he proposed that all concerned compromise on Will Hancock. As the best way out of the situation, the Hollub forces consented and the nomination was made by Mr. Hollub himself, seconded by Mr. Burger and the election was by acclamation.

President Hancock gave the association an active and successful administration and one that was in keeping with the standard set by his editorial labors the preceding years. He published a paper, **Prairie Breezes**, and was for a time associate editor of **Ink Drops**.



JAMES FERDINAND MORTON JR.

29th President

James F. Morton, Jr., the twenty-ninth President of the National Amateur Press Association, was born in Littleton, Mass., October 18, 1870. He received grammar and high school training in the schools of Newton, Mass., and graduated from Harvard College in 1892 with the degree of A. B. and A. M. He is the founder of a system of inter-collegiate debates, now universal, and is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa and School of Expression of Boston, where he received the Speaker's Diploma, in 1894.

In 1889, he entered amateur journalism by contributing to the **Monthly Visitor**, of Haverhill, Mass., and was continuously active ever since. He held various offices in sectional amateur organizations, and served in many capacities. In 1896, he was elected President of the National Amateur Press Association. His administration was hampered

by the new constitution, adopted over his protest, which stripped the executive office of necessary powers in the critical situation that arose, consequently, the year, although marked by personal activity was less successful than hoped, the special handicap being the lack of the official organ. Mr. Morton published **The Beacon**, which appeared each month during his term of office. He remained vigorously active after the close of his term and has written many articles in every department of amateur literature, having held the Essay, Sketch and Editorial laureateships. Mr. Morton also managed successful campaigns for Dr. Swift, Charles Heins and Edith Miniter. He published **Libra** for about three years and several copies of **The Stray One** more recently, besides occasional single issues of campaign and other papers. He has not yet entirely ceased connection with amateur jour-

nalism, and does not intend to do so, although he is too busy with other work to be as active as formerly. At present, Mr. Morton is a lawyer, residing and practicing in New York. He is also President of the Cosmopolitan Society of America, a member of General Council of Esperanto Association of North America, and New York Consul for

Tourists of Universal Esperanto Association, author of "The Curse of Race Prejudice," a work widely circulated, and of "Better Than Socialism," and other pamphlets. He has lectured extensively and written numerous poems and prose articles for various periodicals and is well known in sociological circles as a radical reformer.





DAVID L. HOLLUB

30th President

Our thirtieth President was born in San Francisco, California, September 9th, 1867. He became interested in amateur journalism during the early part of the year 1882. In March, of that year, he associated himself with Will Morse and issued the first number of the **Golden Gate**, which was published until late in 1885 when the lack of time forced its suspension. Thereafter, Hollub contributed to the **New Moon** and **Rising Star**, and later on became associate editor of the **Pacific Courant**.

David L. Hollub found politics congenial to his nature and figured prominently in affairs from 1883 at which time he, so to speak, "ran ahead of his ticket." He was elected Corresponding Secretary of the **Golden Gate Amateur Press Association** in June, 1884, and re-

tained office up to the time of that association's disruption. He also served as Recording Secretary of the **California Amateur Press Association** and, in 1886, was elected Second Vice-President of the **Western Amateur Press Association**. In 1887, he ran for President of the **Western** but being unable to attend the convention he was not elected.

In 1897, he was elected President of the **National Amateur Press Association**, at the San Francisco convention. Mr. Hollub married Rose Steinberg, a sister of Samuel J. Steinberg, and is now located at Chicago, representing the **Midland Casualty Company**.

Mr. Hollub attended the 1918 convention at Chicago and is still "filled with interest" for the cause.



HORACE FREEMAN

31st President

Horace Freeman, the thirty-first President of the National Amateur Press Association, was born in Newark, N. J., in 1870. He became interested in Amateur Journalism through reading the "Ballard" article in *St. Nicholas*, and started publishing a small paper in the early eighties at Bloomfield, New Jersey, where, later, a number of papers were issued. In fact, numerous papers were published throughout the country about this time and many of the editors did their own printing. Mr. Freeman then launched *Criteria*, which had among its contributors many of the "old guard" who were then in the professional field.

In 1897, Mr. Freeman was elected Vice-President of the National Amateur Press Association, at the San Francisco

convention. The following year, 1898, at the New York convention, he was elected chief executive. President Freeman made an able official and through his careful performance of duty and untiring efforts, the association was cleared of an indebtedness that confronted him on assuming the chair. In 1899, at Chicago, he was elected a member and chairman of the board of Executive Judges.

Although a very busy man, Mr. Freeman is still deeply interested in Amateur Journalism. At present, he is engaged with Messrs. Froggart, Morrison & Co., Public Accountants, of New York City. He resides at 218 North Seventh Street, Newark, N. J.



THEODORE B. THIELE

32nd President

Theodore B. Thiele first heard of Amateur Journalism during the convention of the National Amateur Press Association in 1888, held in Chicago, which at that time was his home city. His first article was contributed the same year to **The Event**, a publication issued by L. O. Van Riper and C. Harrison Frost.

In January, 1890, he issued the first number of **Germania**. During the life of this publication he secured a number of articles from prominent literary men and women and the April issue achieved distinction with an essay by Richard Mansfield, the actor, entitled "To Stage Aspirants." The name of the magazine was later changed to **Criterion Monthly Magazine**. After the suspension of this publication and after some years of inactivity he edited and published, during

1898-1900, ten issues of **The Pirate**, a magazine of literary and typographical excellence.

At the Chicago 1899 convention of the National Amateur Press Association, Thiele received 60 votes, to 38 for Samuel Steinberg, for President. Being a German by birth he was then and is to this date the only president the National Amateur Press Association ever elected whose native language is other than English. He served with business ability and shared with Warren J. Brodie, the Official Editor, the expense of two extra issues of **The National Amateur**. The energetic and efficient work of Mr. Brodie in the office of the Official Editor, was of great value, and his loyal support of the president was very helpful to the administration.

President Thiele presided at the Boston 1900 convention and also attended the Chicago convention in 1903.

He always took a great interest in sectional organizations and Amateur Press Clubs, being active at various times in the Western Amateur Press Association and the Press Clubs organized from time to time in Chicago. He

frequently was called upon to act in an official capacity.

In 1904 he removed to the West, residing for some years in California and later in the State of Washington. In 1909 he removed to Hawaii, residing at the Alexander Young Hotel in the city of Honolulu. He recently located at Los Angeles, California.





NELSON GLAZIER MORTON

33rd President

Nelson Glazier Morton was born at Newton Center, Mass., January 6th, 1881. He entered amateur journalism in 1896, joining the New England Amateur Press Association and in the fall of the same year became a member of the National Amateur Press Association. For several years he was moderately active as a contributor and issued three numbers of a type-written paper, *The Kearsarge*. Mr. Morton served as Secretary and later as President of the New England Amateur Press Association. He was President of the New England Amateur Press Association at the Boston convention, July, 1900. During his administration, he published eight numbers of the *Idler*. In the latter part of his administration began what John T. Nixon called "The Awak-

ening," beginning a period of great activity in Amateur Journalism. During the following administration (Nixon's) Morton issued four numbers of the *Idler*. In February, 1902, he became associate editor of the *Literary Gem* and continued with Charles A. A. Parker the publication of that paper monthly until 1913. The *Gem* was mailed regularly until the latter part of its career when several issues were mailed in each bundle. The *Literary Gem* was twice awarded the National Amateur Press Association editorial laureateship and once the honorable mention. Mr. Morton has also held the poet, essay, sketch and history laureateships. He joined the Hub Amateur Journalists' Club of Boston in 1900, and has been an active member ever since, except for

brief periods of absence from that city.

He served as official editor of the club. In 1911 he was elected Executive Judge and in 1902 he served as Historian of the National Amateur Press Association. In addition to the papers named, he issued two numbers, in different years, of *Mortonia*, with contributions from James F. Morton, Jr., Mary White Morton and Frank S. Morton. The Morton family is believed to be the only one which has furnished four members who have been active in the

National Amateur Press Association and certainly is the only one to furnish two Presidents to the National. Morton served as Chairman of the Bureau of Critics in the Thrift administration and in other years has assisted that bureau. He attended the National conventions at Boston in 1900, 1907 and 1912 and New York 1902.

Mr. Morton has been in the Boston office of The Associated Press for many years and is now early morning editor.





JOHN TRAVIS NIXON

34th President

John Travis Nixon was born at Wellington, Kan., in the year 1868. In his boyhood days he became interested in amateur journalism. Along in 1883 he issued several numbers of a venture he called **Our Ideas**. He was joint editor of **The Kansan** at Wellington, Kansas, in 1884, and editor of **The Aspirant** in 1887 and 1888. During the year, 1888, he joined hands with Frederick Heath and published **Stars and Stripes**, which publication was established by Frederick Heath in 1882. A very notable volume was published with cover, frontispiece, etc. Later, he published **The South**, from Crowley, La., with his good wife, Leola White, also an amateur of prominence.

Mr. Nixon was an active member in all organizations. He was prominent in

the Western Amateur Press Association, having held the office of President and Official Editor.

John T. Nixon's most lasting monument to us in his "History of the National Amateur Press Association," which he brought out in 1900, and in which, in imperishable form, we have the record, year by year, of the grand old organization, from 1876 down to the year of publication. Nor was this his only service to the Association. In 1891 he was elected Vice-President of the National Amateur Press Association. He was elected President in 1901, and he served three times as Official Editor. Mr. Nixon filled many minor offices, always giving a helping hand in the hour of need. He died at Mobile, Alabama, February 8, 1909.

**ANTHONY E. WILLS****35th President**

Anthony E. Wills was born at Brooklyn, New York, December 1st, 1879. He entered Amateur Journalism in March, 1900, publishing *Fiction*, a 6x9 magazine. In July, 1901, he was elected President of the Amateur Press Association of North America. John T. Nixon proposed him as a member of the National Amateur Press Association and he was elected as such at Nashville, 1901. A year later, at the New York convention, he was elected President of the National Amateur Press Association. He served in the capacity of President of the New York Amateur Press Club, 1901; The Knickerbocker Amateur Press Club, 1902; and the Olympian Club, 1902-3; all of which were affiliated with the National Amateur Press Association. Mr. Wills has also served as Official Editor of all these at various

times and was Official Editor of the Gotham Press Club in 1909. He was Chairman of the Reception Committee for the New York Convention, 1902, and was also a member of the Reception Committee of 1909. Mr. Wills was Chairman of the Executive Judges, 1903, elected at Chicago, and a member of the same board, elected in New York, 1909. He published twenty-four consecutive monthly issues of *Fiction*, comprising 720 pages. He won the Sketch, Serial and Design Laureateships in 1902. Mr. Wills was at the head of a theatrical firm in New York, producing plays, and a member of the National Association of Theatrical Producing Managers. He was the author of over fifty published plays and dramatic sketches. He died at East Stroudsburg, Pa., July 25th, 1912.

**ALBERT EDWARD BARNARD****36th President**

Albert Edward Barnard was born in Chicago, May 2, 1876. During his student days in the public schools he developed a great interest in literary studies and along in 1893, an extended illustrated writeup in the **Chicago Evening Post** anent the National Convention, first attracted his attention to the National Amateur Press Association. His first amateur paper was published in 1895 and was known as **The Amateur Writer**. He issued three or four numbers of this paper, and then, in company with J. Herbert Phillips, C. Ross Clarke and Wallace R. Thurman, produced a rather pretentious publication known as **Clique**. **Between the Acts** was published later after which he became associate editor of **Ink Drops** and still later **Sans Gene** was launched.

In the spring of 1895, Mr. Barnard and George L. Coburn, of Pekin, Ill., reorganized the Illinois Amateur Press Association, the latter being president and the former official editor. During

1895-6 Mr. Barnard filled the office of president and treasurer of the Chicago Amateur Press Club. He was appointed chairman of the reception committee for the Chicago convention of 1895 by President Burger, and at that convention he was elected recording secretary. He was offered the presidency as a compromise choice, after each of the other candidates failed to get a majority on account of a dead-lock, but he declined the honor because of his confining duties on the **Chicago Chronicle** at that time, with the result that Will Hancock was finally elected.

Mr. Barnard was elected president of the National Amateur Press Association in 1903 and entered his duties as executive with all vim and determination to make a successful administrator. For three months he did virtually all the executive work of the association. Suddenly, and without warning, financial reverses prohibited further expense or time in behalf of the work, and he re-

luctantly resigned his office, to be succeeded by Foster Gilroy, appointed to fill the vacancy by the executive judges.

In 1905, Mr. Barnard became assistant in the department of advertising of Loftis Bros. & Co., and two years later became advertising manager of the wholesale tailoring house of Ed. V. Price & Co.

On September 1, 1917, he was called to the circulation department of The Christian Science Publishing Society in Boston and January 8, 1919, he was assigned to the New York advertising office of **The Christian Science Monitor**, where he is enjoying some very interesting work.





FOSTER GILROY

37th President

Foster Gilroy, our thirty-seventh President, became interested in amateur journalism in 1898, and joined the National Amateur Press Association in May, 1901. In June, of the same year, he succeeded in getting permission from authorities to place an exhibit of amateur journals in the Library of Congress. He published *The Stylus* during the period of 1898 to 1900, which magazine was rated as one of the best. In July, 1901, at the Nashville Convention, he was elected Corresponding Secretary of the National Amateur Press Association, and the following year, at the New York Convention, he was elected First Vice-President. The writer met Mr. Gilroy at the Chicago Convention in July, 1903, at which gathering Mr. Gilroy was elected as one of the Executive Judges. The following year, when Mr. A. E. Barnard resigned as President, Mr. Gilroy was appointed by the Board of Executive Judges to fill the unex-

pired term. Although his term of office was short, Mr. Gilroy filled the chair with great credit, and closed a successful year. At the San Francisco Convention, in July, 1904, he was again elected to the Board of Executive Judges.

Professionally, Mr. Gilroy has had a successful career. His first assignment was on the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. As a reporter on the North American, he became interested in advertising, and then joined the Richard A. Foley Advertising Agency. In 1908, he left for Boston, to take a position with Frank Munsey, owner of the Boston Journal. In 1909, he was transferred to the Munsey headquarters in New York, and became Publicity Manager of all his magazines and newspapers. In January, 1914, he became the associate of Nathan Strauss, Jr., when he bought Puck with which publication he is still connected.



EDWARD M. LIND

38th President

Edward M. Lind, our thirty-eighth president, became interested in amateur journalism at an early age. His progress in the National Amateur Press Association was rapid. Being an active member he was elected to the office of Executive Judge at San Francisco in 1897. Mr. Lind's literary ability and strong editorial views proved him to be political timber and in 1904 he was elected President at the San Francisco convention. His administration was a success, the membership having increased about fifty per cent. while the quality of the papers published rose to higher standard. In September, 1904, he visited Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Salt Lake City and other amateur centers, in the interests of the

National Amateur Press Association. Mr. Lind made a second trip from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast just before the Cleveland convention, which he attended and over which he presided in 1905. During his active days, he endeavored to procure better postage rates for amateur publications, but like all previous attempts of our leaders, it met with little success. He was a leading member of the San Francisco Club. His publication, *The Pagan*, contained literary matter only of the highest character. In 1905, at the Cleveland convention, he was again elected Executive Judge.

Mr. Lind is still interested in amateur journalism, although a very busy man, being general manager of A. P. Hotaling & Company, of San Francisco,



TIMOTHY BURR THRIFT

39th President

Mr. Thrift was born in Lansing, Mich., in 1883. He first became interested in amateur journalism while living in Bellefontaine, Ohio, in 1900, through a reference to the National Amateur Press Association in **Golden Days**. He wrote to Warren J. Brodie of Cleveland for particulars, and was proposed for membership by him, being accepted at the Boston Convention of 1900.

He was elected President at Cleveland in 1905. Other offices he has held in the National Amateur Press Association are: Executive Judge during the administration of President Gilroy; Official Editor at Convention in San Francisco, 1904; Trustee of Endowment Fund, election at New York, 1909. He was elected Executive Judge at the Philadelphia Convention of 1906, but resigned because of conditions which made it a "doubtful honor." He won sketch laureateships in 1904 and 1909.

He began publication of **The Lucky Dog** in April, 1909. In 1902 he con-

ducted it successfully as a professional magazine and built up a subscription list of five thousand. Began publication of **Black Book**, all editorial, in April, 1902.

Mr. Thrift removed from Bellefontaine to Springfield in 1901 and took a special two-year literary course in Wittenberg College. In the spring of 1903 he went to Cleveland and took a position on the **Cleveland Press**. After a year in newspaper work he went into the advertising field, and for two years conducted the advertising and printing departments of Weideman Company, wholesale grocers, then went with the paint and varnish manufacturing house of Sherwin-Williams Co., remaining with them for two years.

From that time up to the fall of 1908 he conducted a printing and advertising business of his own. At that time he joined the Wilson Dress-Hook Co. of Cleveland, and became secretary of the concern in 1909.

Mr. Thrift assisted Mr. Brodie in the organization of the Cleveland Amateur Press Club and served as President most of the time. He conducted the entertainment and other features of the Cleveland Convention of 1903. He was married to Amanda E. Frees, the well-known Chicago amateur, in June, 1907.

Among his most important writings are three series of sketches: "Dreams o' Nights," "At the Sign of the Silver Flagon" and "Fountain Town Sketches." He has always retained an active interest in amateur journalism and has contended that its literary side is paramount.





WILLIAM R. MURPHY

40th President

Twenty years ago when he joined the Philadelphia Amateur Journalists' Club, in 1898, the real activity of William R. Murphy in amateur journalism began. Several years before, in 1892, he had become interested in puzzeldom and this brought him in touch with A. J. He joined the United Amateur Press Association in 1899 and the National Amateur Press Association soon after.

Among the offices he has held is that of Secretary of the Philadelphia Amateur Journalists' Club from 1899 to 1907, the entire formal existence of that organization, with the exception of a few months at the beginning. He has also been Secretary of the Alumni of Philadelphia Amateurdum, which has held several reunions since that time.

In 1892 Mr. Murphy became Second Vice-President of the National Amateur Press Association and presided over

part of the New York convention. During the presidential terms of Lind and Thrift he was Secretary of Publicity, and is reputed to have brought amateur journalism to the attention of more persons than any other single medium through the *St. Nicholas* and other articles, including departments conducted from 1903 to 1906 in *Young Americans*, *Golden Days* and *The American Boy*. He also supervised promotion work. From 1904 to 1907 nearly four hundred names were added to the membership rolls.

Mr. Murphy was elected President of the National Amateur Press Association at the Philadelphia convention in 1906. He was for three terms Director of the United Amateur Press Association and served on the critical bureaus of both associations. During Mrs. Miniter's term as President of the National, Mr. Murphy was Historian of the organiza-

tion. He was elected President of the Interstate Amateur Press Association in 1904. He has attended the following conventions:

United—Jersey City, 1900; Philadelphia, 1902; Baltimore, 1904; Philadelphia, 1906.

Interstate—New Brunswick, 1904; New York, 1905; Boston, 1906.

National—New York, 1902; Cleveland, 1905; Philadelphia, 1906; Boston, 1907; New York, 1909; Chicago, 1911; Boston, 1912.

Atlantic Coast—New York, 1907.

In the National Amateur Press Association he has won the following laureate awards: Poetry, Essay, Sketch, Historian, Editorial (twice), and has received honorable mention in all classes.

In the United he has won Story, Poetry, Essay and Editorial laureateships once or more each, and honorable mention.

Mr. Murphy is a graduate of the Central High School of Philadelphia and the

University of Pennsylvania, earning the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science from the latter institution. He graduated with honors from each and holds membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity.

He has been in newspaper and magazine work since his graduation. He was first connected with the Philadelphia **Telegraph** and **The Times** and has been with the **Evening Ledger** since it was established in 1914, his chief work being editorial writing and dramatic and musical criticism.

He spent one year in Chicago as associate editor of a musical weekly. He has also been on the editorial staff of **Young Americans**, **Golden Days** and **American Shrubs** at various times as contributing and advising editor.

Mr. Murphy is author of "The Story of Philadelphia," "Stories of the Opera" and "Handbook of Amateur Journalism."





CHARLES W. HEINS

41st President

Charles W. Heins was born in Altoona, Pa., in 1877, and removed to New York City when nine years of age.

Interesting himself in the Golden Hours Club, he became acquainted with amateur journalism. In 1895 he joined the movement that resulted in organizing the United Amateur Press Association, being the seventeenth person to become a member. After having served in various official positions, he was elected President at the 1900 convention at Boston. In 1896 the New York Amateur Press Club was organized and Mr. Heins was elected President of the Greater New York Amateur Press Club at the time of the Boston National Convention in 1900. In April, 1905, he assisted in organizing the Gotham Press Club, of which organization he was the third President. He was chairman of the Reception Committee, United Amateur Press Association, 1899, and of the Interstate in 1905.

In 1898 he became a member of the National and attended the New York convention. He attended the Boston convention in 1900, New York in 1902,

Philadelphia in 1906. At the latter convention he was elected Official Editor.

In 1899 he received honorable mention in the United Amateur Press Association for a story, and in 1900 was awarded the laureateships in the story and essay contests. In the National contests in 1901 he received honorable mention in the story contest; in 1908 honorable mention for editorials, and in 1909 the history laureateship.

Mr. Heins was a member of the Atlantic Coast A. P. A., the Fossils, the Interstate, the Gotham Press Club, the United Amateur Press Association, the National Amateur Press Association, and is an honorary member of the Philadelphia Alumni Association. In 1897 he issued the *Literary Pioneer*; from 1899 to 1909 he published *Arrows*; in 1902 *Arrows, Jr.*, was issued as an overflow paper; and while President of the National he published the *National Critic*.

Mr. Heins was elected President of the National at the Boston convention in 1907, after completing his term as Official Editor of the twenty-ninth vol-

ume of *The National Amateur*. At the Boston convention he was the recipient of a silver loving cup, presented to him by delegates attending.

At the Milwaukee convention in 1908 he was elected chairman of the executive judges; and since then has kept the fires of his allegiance burning by attend-

ing various conventions at Boston, Grand Rapids, Brooklyn, etc., being the Treasurer of the New York convention in 1909. It was mainly due to his effort that the handsome 74-page souvenir program was presented to the delegates.





WILLIAM C. AHLHAUSER

42nd President

William C. Ahlhauser, the forty-second president of the National Amateur Press Association, began his career as an amateur journalist thirty years ago. In March, 1888, he published his first amateur paper called *The News*, a little rubber-stamp sheet. During the year 1891 he published a four-page 5x7 paper styled *The Star Advertiser*. In 1895, he heard of organized Amateur Journalism and immediately became interested and contributed liberally to various papers. The following year he joined the National Amateur Press Association. December 11, 1896, Mr. Ahlhauser was instrumental in organizing the Milwaukee Press Literary Club. On November 15, during the same year, a new four-page 6x9 paper named *The Badger State Philatelist* was published. In July, 1897, he launched *The Cynosure*, which is now in its twenty-

second year, and is fittingly styled "Wisconsin's Senior Amateur."

On October 6, 1897, he joined the United Amateur Press Association. In July, 1899, he was elected to the presidency of the Milwaukee Press Literary Club. At the 1899 convention of the National Amateur Press Association at Chicago, which he attended, he was elected vice-president. In September, 1902, he called a meeting of the Wisconsin amateurs and organized the Wisconsin Press Literary Association and was chosen its president. In July, 1903, he attended the Chicago convention of the National Amateur Press Association and also the Western Amateur Press Association convention. He was elected president of the latter organization at that time and presented with a large silver loving cup by the members as a token to commemorate their esteem. In July,

1906, Mr. Ahlhauser was elected president of the United Amateur Press Association of America at its convention in Milwaukee. During that year he also served on the Editorial Award Committee of the National Association. In September, 1906, Mr. Ahlhauser, in company with Walter F. Zahn, took a trip to the Atlantic coast, and while there attended the convention of the Interstate Amateur Press Association at Boston. The impression which he made upon the eastern amateurs was substantially demonstrated by his election to the official editorship at the convention of the National Amateur Press Association, held in Boston in July, 1907, and at the annual United convention he was chosen a member of its Board of Directors. His volume of *The National Amateur* was a very excellent one in which he inaugurated many new features.

At the Milwaukee convention, July, 1908, he was elected president of the National Amateur Press Association and the following year, at the Boston, 1909, convention, he was elected chairman of the Executive Judges. At the 1909 convention he won honorable mention for his editorials in *The Cynosure* and was awarded the silver medal.

In July, 1908, with the assistance of Frederic Heath, he compiled and published for general circulation a complete index to the official organ, *The National Amateur*, from Volume 1, Number 1, to

that date. When he took the official editorship in 1907, he began the series of biographical sketches of "Our Ex-Presidents" from the organization of the National Amateur Press Association, publishing installments in each succeeding issue as space permitted. In 1915, he made a trip to the Pacific coast, visiting old-time amateurs.

Mr. Ahlhauser served as vice-president of the Milwaukee Press Club (professional); Publicity and Entertainment Committee of the Calumet Club and County League of Building and Loan Associations; Publicity Committee of the Milwaukee Real Estate Board; the Milwaukee Board of Fire Underwriters; he was active in work of County Council of Defense; was Director of the Handel Chorus, a leading musical organization. He is a member of the Milwaukee Athletic Club. Professionally, he is engaged in the real estate business, and is manager of the Van Dyke Land and Investment Company. Mr. Ahlhauser was recently elected a director and Vice-President of the Milwaukee Commercial Bank. He is also a director of the Security Loan and Building Association.

Mr. Ahlhauser's career in Amateur Journalism has been brilliant and he has sacrificed much time and money for the National Amateur Press Association, which he has always held dearly.

WALTER F. ZAHN.





EDITH DOWE MINITER

43rd President

Edith Dowe Minter, the forty-third President of the National Amateur Press Association, entered amateur journalism way back in the dark ages of 1883, being introduced at the famous Gardner convention to many friends of her life,—George Edward Day, Frank S. C. Wicks, Truman J. Spencer, Finlay A. Grant. She first heard of "the cause" through an advertisement which Finlay A. Grant placed in a Worcester, (Mass.) paper, and which cost her 25 cents. Mrs. Minter's was the only reply, but Grant never regretted the expenditure. She at once began publishing a paper, the **Worcester Amateur**, but won more fame as a contributor of short stories to the publications of others. In 1885, she attended her first National convention, this being indeed the first ever attended by young women. She has attended every Boston convention, all the New York conventions since '85, also Philadelphia, '06; Cleveland, '10, and Bridgeport, '14. Of the two women who have served the Nation-

al Amateur Press Association as official editor, Mrs. Minter is one, and she was its first woman president, having been elected at New York, '09. During her year in the presidency, Mrs. Minter was among the most active of chief executives, getting out 12 **True Blues**, one **Aftermath**, and four numbers of **The Varied Year**, a large quarterly magazine, besides numerous post card bulletins sent to all members. Other papers with which she has been connected editorially are **Webster Amateur**, **Rising Age**, **Quartette**, and **Ours**. She has been connected with the Hub Club since 1894, several times its president, and its secretary continuously since 1910. In 1903, Mrs. Minter was among those organizing the Interstate Association, and she attended all of its conventions until it ceased to exist after the final meeting and banquet in New York, Columbus Day, 1911. She was president of this association in 1906-7.

In the professional world, Mrs. Minter was for 12 years editor of **Home**

and Abroad, a Boston literary and society journal; she has also contributed short stories to Collier's, and other magazines, and poetry to the Century, New England, Success, Youth's Companion, McCall's, National, etc. Her first book, a study of Polish-American

life called "Our Natupski Neighbors," was brought out in 1916, by Henry Holt & Co., and received reviews in over 200 organs of criticism in this country and England. Such has been the success of this book that she is now preparing a sequel by request of her publishers.





EDWARD F. SUHRE

44th President

Edward F. Suhre, the forty-fourth president of the National Amateur Press Association, has been actively identified with Amateur Journalism for more than twenty years. He made his entry through the medium of the Golden Hours club. He established and was elected President of the "National Association of Branch Officers," an adjunct to the Golden Hours Club.

In 1895, he was instrumental in organizing the United Amateur Press Association of America, of which organization he became an officer and subsequently a director. Mr. Suhre was the first president of the St. Louis Amateur Journalism club, in which capacity he served several years.

July 2, 1904, he was appointed director of the Amateur Press Congress and arranged the event at the St. Louis World's Fair. Again, at the San Francisco Pan-American Exposition, in

1915, he was appointed director by the management, of a similar Amateur Press Congress which held joint sessions with the International Press Congress.

Mr. Suhre joined the National Amateur Press Association about fifteen years ago and is one of the most devoted members. He has been particularly active in the politics of the Association and has aided many of his friends into office.

In 1910, at the Cleveland Convention, he was elected President and his administration was noteworthy for the re-juvenation movement, resulting in renewed activity in the publishing of papers and the membership campaign. At the Chicago Convention the following year, he was elected Executive Judge.

Mr. Suhre has a record of being a "globe trotter" which accounts for his having become personally acquainted

with the leading members in all parts of the country and also his attending the numerous conventions.

The first amateur papers to which he contributed were Perry S. Ewing's **Club News** (1893); **Forest and Field**; **The Recorder** and **Bits and Chips**. He contributed freely to a long list of papers during the past ten years. His

own publications were **The Missourian** and **Occasional Press**, and even though a busy man he is still active and greatly interested in the cause.

Mr. Suhre has just completed twenty-five years' service with the St. Louis office of the New York Life Insurance company, which company he entered upon finishing school.





WALTER F. ZAHN

45th President

Walter F. Zahn, the forty-fifth President of the National Amateur Press Association was born at Milwaukee in March, 1885. Having inherited a small printing press, his father contributed a few fonts of type, and at the age of five years, he began what was to be his calling in life—a printer. As early as 1893, *The Journal*, a one-page, Hearst-style sheet, appeared regularly every Saturday. In March, 1900, *The Advocate* was launched, and that year four numbers appeared, and during the next year and one-half *The Advocate* was published regularly monthly. Later, it was continued as a semi-professional monthly but later he dropped the idea and changed it to an amateur sheet.

It was along in 1902 when he first heard of Amateur Journalism, and at that time joined all the associations then in existence, the National, United Western, Wisconsin and the Milwaukee Press Literary club. At different times

he held offices in several of the associations and was official editor of the local club for three successive years.

In 1907, he published *The Modern West*, a 132-page professional monthly magazine. Mr. Zahn made an able official as his record shows. He was elected Corresponding Secretary of the National Amateur Press Association in 1910, he was chosen Official Editor and produced a splendid volume of *The National Amateur*. At the Chicago convention, July, 1911, Mr. Zahn was elected President and gave the association a business-like administration long to be remembered. The following year he was elected Executive Judge.

Mr. Zahn is a linotype operator by trade and at present is president of the Zahn Typesetting Co. He is well known in Milwaukee theatrical circles. He is also a member of the Milwaukee Press Club (professional.)



EDWARD H. COLE

46th President

Edward H. Cole, the 46th President of the National Amateur Press Association, entered amateur journalism in August, 1905, through the persuasions of Paul J. Campbell, at which time he published a small paper named **The Hustler** with Jacob Golden. Later **The Hustler** was succeeded by the **Olympian**, of which thirty-six numbers have been published.

Mr. Cole attended the Philadelphia Convention in 1906, at which gathering he was elected second Vice-President of the National. He was also active in the United, Inter-State, and Atlantic Coast Amateur Press Associations.

In 1909, he was appointed Secretary of Publicity of the National, and in 1911 was chosen Official Editor. He began the publication of **The Bema** in 1911 as an all editorial paper. Mr. Cole has been the holder of editorial, history, and essay laureateships in the National at various times. He was also awarded the history laureateship "Emeritus" in 1912.

At the Boston Convention July, 1912, Mr. Cole was elected President of the National, and the following year was elected Executive Judge. During his career, at various times, he was Chairman of the bureau of critics, and member of various committees. He attended conventions held at Philadelphia in 1906, Boston, 1907, New York 1909, Cleveland 1910, Boston 1912, Grand Rapids 1913, Bridgeport 1914, Brooklyn 1915, Boston 1916, New York 1917.

In 1911 he played an active part in the so called "Young Blood" movement, but never believed in full "Young Blood" policy.

Mr. Cole, in 1913, prepared the new constitution adopted at the Bridgeport Convention, which still in unamended form governs the Association. In June, 1916, he married Helene E. Hoffman, who at that time was President of the United Amateur Press Association, while he was President of the National.

Mr. Cole, at present, is instructor in English at East Dedham, Mass., High School.



FRANK A. KENDALL

47th President

Frank A. Kendall, the 47th President of the National Amateur Press Association, whose career in Amateur Journalism began at the early age of ten years, was perhaps one of the most brilliant of amateurs in late years. He was best known through his famous magazine, *The Torpedo*, a criterion as to literary contents and the art of printing. "The Inland Printer" some years ago devoted considerable space to his "Cloister Edition," which supersedes anything attempted by any amateur and which was the subject of praise by the professional press.

In 1902, he was elected Secretary of the National Amateur Press Association, which duties he performed with great credit. The same year, he was elected official editor of the Wisconsin Press Literary Association and published *The Wisconsin Press*.

In 1908 at the Milwaukee Convention of the National Amateur Press Associa-

tion, he was elected Official Editor and produced a volume which will be a standard for years and years to come.

Mr. Kendall put his whole life into the work, and the following year his candidacy for the Presidency received the support of every loyal amateur, but he decided to withdraw, preferring to rest his efforts on the verdict of Amateurdom. His scholarly and gentlemanly retirement won the love and respect of every member. He was, however, compelled to accept the Executive Judgeship, and in 1910 was chosen Historian.

Mr. Kendall married Miss Jennie Irene Maloney, another amateur of prominence. At the Grand Rapids Convention in 1913, at the time when the Association's interest needed a stimulus, some of the leading amateurs suggested the nomination of Kendall for President. A universal approbation which he could not refuse, induced him to return to activity, and accept the honor con-

ferred. Kendall's return proved a tonic to the Association, and incidentally brought back several of the old guard. His success was assured from the day of his election. The progress made in the short time is evidence of Kendall's power and influence among his numerous friends and constituents.

Frank Austin Kendall died at Cambridge, Mass., Sunday, November 23rd, 1913, after a week's illness of Meningitis, and was buried in the family lot at Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin, the scene of his boyhood days, November 28, 1913.





JENNIE M. KENDALL

48th President

Jennie M. Kendall, the forty-eighth President of the National Amateur Press Association, was elevated to the Presidency by appointment in 1913 at the death of Frank A. Kendall. She is the second lady to occupy the office of President of the Association. Her career was one of activity. In 1905, she was chosen Corresponding Secretary, and in 1908 she was elected historian of the Association. Her administration of the unexpired term was one of success, having gained the confidence and co-operation of all the members. In 1914 she was chosen Executive Judge, and at the

Chicago Convention in 1918 she was elected Treasurer of the association. In previous years, she won the History Laureateship, the Story Laureateship, and the Honorable Mention in Sketches.

Mrs. Kendall is still deeply interested in Amateur Journalism, and one of the most prominent workers for the cause at Chicago today.

Mrs. Kendall also held various offices in the Western Amateur Press Association, Chicago Amateur Press club and attended numerous conventions, taking active part.

**LESTON M. AYRES****49th President**

Mr. Ayers first heard of organized Amateur Journalism in 1897, and joined the National Amateur Press Association in December, 1898, being proposed for membership by Mrs. Eleanor C. Dowden. He published his first paper *The Hebe*, in April, 1899, which was 5x7 eight page and cover, quarterly. In July, of the same year he was appointed New Jersey representative on the recruit committee for the National. The first number of *The Amateur Arena* appeared in October, 1899, and it still makes its appearance occasionally. In March, 1899, he organized the first New Brunswick Amateur Press Club, and was elected its first President. About this time he was appointed Secretary of the famous "Boston Convention Attending Corporation," the object of which was to provide a way for Amateurs to save their money in order to attend either or

both Amateur Conventions which were held in Boston in 1900.

At the Boston Convention, Mr. Ayers was elected Treasurer of the National. In 1902 he was appointed Assistant Secretary at the New York Convention.

At the Boston Convention of The Inter-State Amateur Press Association, he was elected the first President September 7th, 1903. In 1901, he published *Napa Campaign* a pre-convention political paper. In 1905, he was instrumental in organizing the Gotham Press Club. At the Grand Rapids Convention in 1913, Mr. Ayers was elected Official Editor, and his volume of *The National Amateur* was noted for its unusual quantity of live news matter, its numerous illustrations, and for being one of the seven largest volumes of the official organ published up to that date. The seven largest volumes are:

	Edited by
1906—158 pages	Heins
1902—125 pages	Alderman
1905—120 pages	Campbell
1908—102 pages	Kendall
1907—100 pages	Ahlhauser
1899— 71 pages	Brodie
1913— 70 pages	Ayers

Mr. Ayers was elected President at the Bridgeport convention in 1914, and the following year he served as chairman of the Executive Judges. During his time as President he issued **The Amateur Arena** and **The National Live Wire**.



**GEORGE J. HOUTAIN****50th President**

George Julian Houtain, the fiftieth President of the National Amateur Press Association, had an active career in Amateur Journalism ever since his entrance. In 1901, he was elected Recording Secretary of the National Amateur Press Association. At the New York convention in 1909, he was elected Official Editor but only served a few months when he was removed from office by President Miniter. In 1910 he was elected First Vice-President but resigned shortly after. At the Brooklyn convention in 1915, he was elected President and endeavored to give the association a lively administration. In 1916, at Boston, Mr. Houtain was re-elected to the Presidency. While Mr. Houtain has the

distinction of being the only President ever re-elected, it is regrettable to note the fact that he has broken the unwritten law established away back in 1882 when Frank Newton Reeve was offered a second term but declined, respecting this rule. In 1884, Henry E. Legler, who was also offered a second term, declined to run again, on the same grounds. These facts are noted in justice to other officials who are known to have declined bearing precedence in mind.

In 1917, Mr. Houtain was elected Executive Judge. He also held numerous offices in other press associations and clubs at various times and proved a popular official.



HARRY E. MARTIN

51st President

Mr. Martin, the fifty-first President, joined the National Amateur Press Association in October, 1905. In 1907, he was appointed Secretary of Credentials. He captured the Short Story Honorable Mention in 1909. Along in 1911 and 1912 he was a member of the Editorial Award Committee. After several years of inactivity, he returned to the ranks in January, 1917; and, at the New York Convention the following July he was elected President. He gave the Association a splendid administration. The following year, in 1918, he was elected Executive Judge.

Mr. Martin published **The American Star** from 1900 to 1903. In the latter part of 1903, he began a new publication called **The Sprite**, which became very popular. He was also connected in various ways with other Press Associations, having been Vice-President of the United Amateur Press Association in 1905 and 1906, and was one of the organizers of the Ohio Amateur Press Association in 1907. At present he is professor of English at Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio.



GRAEME DAVIS

52nd President

Graeme Davis, 52nd President of the National Amateur Press Association, became acquainted with amateur journalism in his tenth year through the columns of *Harper's Round Table*, and the following year he printed a voluminous number of *The Magazette* containing contributions by noted amateurs of the period and an extended editorial department; but few copies were mailed, however, and the edition is still stored with his first press. Prior to his learning of organized amateur journalism, he had been publishing amateur journals for local distribution, one of which, *The Midget*, was one of the two papers published by members of a large juvenile commonwealth or "nation" which he had organized in his home town.

Mr. Davis' real entry into the Dom was made when he added an amateur department to *El Gasedil*; this was a miniature paper devoted to the international language movement, enjoyed second-class rates, and subscribers in twenty-seven countries. None of the larger editions of each number, printed wholly in international language, were ever mailed to amateurs. His best work appeared as contributions to other journals, notably the *Pioneer*, and one of them was awarded the essay laureateship of the United Amateur Press Association in 1909; this honor Mr. Davis had to refuse because he had resigned his membership a few weeks after joining that association.

He joined the National Amateur Press Association in 1901 and has since been devoted to that association alone. The same year he was appointed a member of the Recruit Committee and also in the year following. In 1903 he became a member of the Minneapolis Amateur Journalists' Club, and in 1904 of the Chicago Amateur Press Club. In 1909 he was appointed a member of the Bureau of Critics; in 1917 he was elected Official Editor, and in July, 1918, he was elected President.

In December, 1899, Mr. Davis began the publication of *El Gasedil* concluding it with the strong and all-amateur Winter issue of 1905. In 1903 he collaborated with Donald Fellows, one of his recruits, in publishing *Par Moi*. From February, 1908, until 1910 he was co-editor with Louis Starring of the latter's *Reflector*. In 1910 he began the publication of *The Lingerer* with a fifty-page issue of "literary and sumptuous typographical work." Last year he began the publication of the *National Amateur Review of Reviews* as a supplement to the official organ. This year he will continue the publication of the two journals last named.

At the age of fourteen, after a few weeks in high school following private tutoring, Mr. Davis entered the University of South Dakota. Three years later he left there to continue his studies in Minnesota, Chicago, Europe, and Seabury Theological Seminary. In De-

cember, 1910, he was ordained to the Priesthood, serving part of his Diaconate and six months as a Priest at the Cathedral in Cleveland, Ohio, and then became pastor of a parish in that city. In February, 1913, he moved to Wisconsin where he built up a strong parish, was chairman of the Social Service Commission, and appointed to other diocesan offices. In the spring of 1916, following a physical collapse from incessant labors he returned to his early home and college town, and is now chaplain at the State University, an Examining Chaplain and a member of the Board of Religious Education of the diocese, and has been elected a member of the National Council of Collegiate Work. He is also professor of French in his University. He has engaged to some extent in professional journalism and has published pamphlets and books of a devotional and ecclesiastical character written mostly in French.

Mr. Davis has an immense collection of amateur journals dating from the sixties, and has a very large private library, especially rich in books printed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and in rare volumes and manuscripts, in first editions, autographed and presentation copies, and privately printed books. From his own press has issued a number of privately printed books. He is a painter in oils, an etcher, and president of the University Art Club.





W. PAUL COOK

53rd President

W. Paul Cook, the 53rd President of the National Amateur Press Association, was born in 1882. As early as 1887-1888, he issued hand-printed papers. In 1890 he issued rubber-stamp papers and printed a book. In 1892, he was on the grade school paper in Rutland, Vermont. Mr. Cook obtained his first printing outfit along in 1891 and immediately took an active interest by publishing various small papers. In 1897, he issued the Golden Hours club paper, **Tom Thumb**. Two years later, he became Editor-in-chief of the High School paper, published at Claremont*, New Hampshire. In 1901, he joined the United Amateur Press Association and in

the same year published his first number of the famous **Monadnock** magazine, a magazine which later in life surpassed all publications as to literary contents and size and the motto of which,—“For Love Only; You Can’t Buy It,” was widely copied. Mr. Cook joined the National Amateur Press Association in 1905 and the following year (1906) was appointed as Member of Bureau of Critics. From 1915 to 1918 Mr. Cook published another magazine of the front rank, **The Vagrant**, and his splendid record of the past paved the way to the Official Editorship of the National Amateur Press Association to which he was elected at the Chicago 1918 conven-

tion. Mr. Cook's election saved the National organization, for Cook was activity personified and great credit is due him since his wonderful activity was carried on and continued in the face of most discouraging support. He published what will be known as the "Giant Volume" of the National Amateur, containing in all about 300 pages, or about twice the size of the previously largest volume. Aside from his activity in the National, he also published the **United Amateur** for the United Amateur Press Association and printed various papers for members of the National Association. In July, 1919, at the Newark convention, Mr. Cook was chosen President of the

National Amateur Press Association without an opposing vote, being the first president ever elected unanimously.

It is the author's prediction that the coming year will be the National's most active year, bringing back to the fold many of the old-timers and reviving the amateur press clubs all over the country. Mr. Cook has established an enviable record, one that will appear as an epoch maker in years to come.

Aside from his publishing activities, Mr. Cook was best known as a writer of fiction, his nom de plume, "Willis Tete Crossman," appearing frequently in the amateur press.



